

## **Changing forms of activism under challenging political environment: Myanmar women activists**

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### **Abstract**

After the attempted coup in 2021, spaces for civic movement have become further and further squeezed. Women activists who remain inside Myanmar or continue their activism at the border of Myanmar are facing increasing challenges to work for women's rights and gender justice. This presentation analyzes the various ways Myanmar women activists are changing and transforming their activism in the face of challenging political environment. As Hemmings (2012) argued, activism is an everyday way of resisting. Women activists in Myanmar redefine activism and its practices. While they are not able to resist openly against the military in public, they now define humanitarian work and their everyday activities in the community and households as part of their activism. Through the personal accounts of Myanmar women activists, this presentation analyzes how they adapt to the changing political environment, and how that creates new spaces for activism.